

MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News; Medical Economics; Correspondence; Twenty-five Years Ago column; Department of Public Health; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for the News column must be furnished by the twentieth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings—

American Medical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 9-13, 1932, Olin West, M. D., 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, secretary.

Association for the Study of Internal Secretions, New Orleans, May 9-10, 1932, F. M. Pottenger, M. D., 1930 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, secretary.

Pacific Northwest Medical Association, Spokane, Washington, June 27-29, 1932, C. W. Countryman, 280 Paulsen, Medical-Dental Building, Spokane, Washington.

Western Branch of the American Urological Association, Portland, Oregon, July 1 and 2, 1932, F. S. Dillingham, 320 Fidelity Building, Los Angeles, secretary.

Western Branch of the American Public Health Association, Denver, Colorado, June 9-11, 1932, W. P. Shepard, M. D., 600 Stockton Street, San Francisco, secretary.

American College of Physicians.—The following physicians were elected officers of the American College of Physicians at their annual session held in San Francisco April 4-8, 1932:

President, Francis M. Pottenger, M. D., Monrovia.

Vice-president, George M. Piersol, M. D., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

First vice-president, Maurice C. Pincoffs, M. D., Baltimore, Maryland.

Second vice-president, Charles G. Jennings, M. D., Detroit, Michigan.

Third vice-president, Noble Wiley Jones, Portland, Oregon.

Treasurer, Elmer H. Funk, M. D., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Secretary, William G. Morgan, M. D., Washington, D. C.

Executive secretary, E. R. Loveland, M. D., 133 South Thirty-sixth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

University of California Medical School.—Announcement is made that the University lecturer in the Medical School for the year 1932-33 will be Dr. W. McKim Marriott, dean and professor of pediatrics at Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri. Doctor Marriott will be at the Medical School early in the fall of 1932. He will conduct lectures and clinics similar to those conducted by other University lecturers.

Dr. Linn J. Boyd, professor of medicine at New York Homeopathic College, talked to students in the University of California Medical School during April, 1932. His talks covered the following subjects:

1. The Contributions of Homeopathy to Clinical Pharmacology during the Last Five Years.

2. The Pharmacologic Basis of Homeopathy.

Study of Heredity in Twins.—Professor Holmes of the University of California is directing a study of the manifestations of tuberculosis, cancer, mental defect, and insanity in twins, and especially identical twins, as a possible means of throwing light on the rôle of

heredity in causing such diseases and defects. Any information which you can give concerning twins whom you may know among patients or acquaintances who suffer from any of these afflictions will be of value in this research. Will you kindly send such information to Prof. S. J. Holmes, 4013 Life Sciences Building, University of California.

Western Branch of the American Public Health Association.—The third annual meeting of the Western Branch of the American Public Health Association will be held in Denver, Colorado, June 9, 10, and 11, 1932, immediately following the National Tuberculosis Association meeting.

The Western Branch of the American Public Health Association was organized in 1928, and with the sanction of the parent body, the American Public Health Association has increased its membership to over 1,600 during these four years. Its purposes are to offer western public health people opportunities for exchange of experience, interchange of views with our eastern colleagues, and in general to promote western public health development.

Three major items of special western importance will be included on the program at the Denver meeting: Psittacosis, now apparently endemic in native western birds of the parrot family, is to be discussed by Dr. Karl F. Meyer of the Hooper Foundation, San Francisco; reciprocal relations for the control of shellfish in Pacific ports to be discussed by the state health officers of California, Oregon, and Washington; Rocky Mountain spotted fever, with special reference to its similarity to typhus to be discussed by Dr. R. H. Riley, health officer of Maryland. Several national as well as western public health problems will be discussed by both eastern and western authorities.

The meeting is to be addressed by Dr. Louis I. Dublin, president of the American Public Health Association. The presiding officer will be Dr. E. T. Hanley, city health officer of Seattle, president of the Western Branch. Other national authorities who have accepted invitations to appear on the program are: Dr. John Ferrell, president-elect, American Public Health Association; Dr. E. L. Bishop, chairman of the Executive Board, American Public Health Association; Dr. Kendall Emerson, acting executive secretary, American Public Health Association; Dr. Taliaferro Clark, acting surgeon-general, United States Public Health Service; Dr. H. W. Hill, professor of bacteriology and nursing and of health, University of British Columbia, Vancouver; Dr. M. P. Ravenel, editor of the *Journal of the American Public Health Association*; and others.

Western Branch of the American Urological Association.—The eighth annual meeting of the Western Branch Society of the American Urological Association will be held at Portland, Oregon, July 1 and 2.

Friday, July 1, there will be a dry clinic in the morning; luncheon at the Heathman, the official hotel; in the afternoon, papers. A banquet and entertainment at the University Club will be held in the evening.

Saturday, July 2, papers in the morning; luncheon, including the ladies. In the afternoon, a motor trip up the Columbia River Highway; and in the evening, a barbecue, including the ladies, is programmed. Fishing and horseback trips will also be provided. All members of the society will be invited to attend.

Pan-American Medical Association.—More than three years ago, the Pan-American Medical Association was founded in Cuba for the purpose of promoting more intimate relations among the physicians and surgeons of the Western Hemisphere. Its object is to extend hospitality to visiting physicians and surgeons in the various countries making up the Americas. Its purpose is to develop friendship; to advance medical knowledge in the Western Hemisphere; to interchange doctors for the purpose of presenting medical courses; to hold meetings in different countries; to exchange medical literature; to disseminate information regarding scientific investigations and our common public health interests; to create an international lending library and to develop inter-American medical literature by means of official publications. The official languages of the association are Spanish, French, Portuguese, and English.

The association was founded in Cuba some three years ago and since then meetings have been held in Cuba, Panama, and Mexico City. The next annual congress will be held in the United States, either in New Orleans, Dallas, or in San Francisco. The seat of the association must be in the Western Hemisphere and the main office is located in the country in which the president of the association resides. At the present time the headquarters of the association are in Cuba, as Dr. F. M. Fernandez, its president, and Dr. J. E. Lopez-Silvero, its secretary, are both citizens of Havana, Cuba. Dr. Conrad Berins of New York is treasurer. These officers were elected in 1930 and will serve through 1933.

At the last meeting of the association held in Mexico City in July 1931, Doctors Charles P. Mathé, Ralph Soto-Hall, and Leo Eloesser were instructed to form a chapter of the American association in San Francisco. On February 1, 1932, the San Francisco chapter was formed and the following doctors, prominent in public health, in the medical departments of Stanford University and the University of California and in medical circles of the city, were chosen as its charter members to wit:

Charles Mathé, president; Ralph Soto-Hall, secretary-treasurer; E. M. Aldana, Hans Barker, Arthur Bloomfield, Philip King Brown, William Dock, Leo Eloesser, John Gallwey, J. C. Geiger, William Lucas, Howard Naffziger, William Ophüls, Langley Porter, Isaac Montealegre, Consul of Nicaragua; G. J. Valenzuela, Vice-Consul of Costa Rica.

Recently new chapters have been formed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in Caracas, Venezuela, and in Atlanta, Georgia. Chapters are soon to be formed in Los Angeles and in Seattle. The first meeting of the association was held on March 26, 1932, in the Colonial Ballroom of the St. Francis Hotel at which Dr. T. Davis, well-known urological authority of the Crowell Urological Clinic of Greenville, South Carolina, will talk on "Transurethral Correction of Prostatic Obstruction." This subject of the endovesical method of electrically relieving prostatism in the closed bladder will be of great interest, as it has attracted considerable attention and is now being given serious consideration by the urologists and surgeons the world over.

Membership is open to the members of the San Francisco medical profession of ethical standing and ability.

Honor Conferred on Sir Henry Wellcome.—The *British Medical Journal* (London) contains the announcement that at a meeting of the Council of Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lord Moynihan, president, in the chair, the Right Hon. Lord Dawson of Penn, P. C., G. C., V. O., K. C. B., K. C. M. G., physician to His Majesty the King, and president of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and Sir Henry Wellcome, LL.D., F. S. A., founder of the Wellcome Research Institution, were elected Honorary Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England is one of the most exclusive scientific bodies in England, and the bestowal of this honor on Sir Henry Wellcome is very exceptional in that aside from members of the royal family, Sir Henry is the second person not holding a medical degree upon whom this rare distinction has been conferred, the first and only other recipient being the famous field marshal, Lord Roberts of Kandahar.

Sir Henry Wellcome is of American birth and is well known for his world-wide scientific work and extensive pioneer researches in connection with tropical diseases, including the founding of the Wellcome Tropical Research Laboratories at Khartoum, on the Upper Nile regions of the Sudan, Africa. He is also a director of the Gorgas Memorial Institute, Washington, D. C., with its Tropical Research Laboratories at Panama.

MEDICO-LEGAL

CALIFORNIA SUPERIOR COURT APPELLATE DEPARTMENT DECISION REGARDING CHIROPRACTORS

The Los Angeles *Daily Journal*, a newspaper devoted to the publication of legal decisions and notices, in its issue of March 28, 1932, under a black block letter caption, "Medical Board Has No Chiropractic Control," printed the interesting decision which is given below. It is here reprinted for its informative value to the readers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It is interesting as showing that in the interpretation of laws, the courts are not prone to go beyond legal precedents. If the people through initiative vote commit an error from the standpoint of the state's best policy or interests, then such error, according to the courts, must be rectified by vote of the people and not by vote of the legislature. Creating thus a situation good or bad, according to principles and results at stake. The decision was written by Associate Appellate Judge Shaw and concurred in by Presiding Appellate Judge McLucas and Associate Judge Bishop. The opinion follows:

"Chiropractors are not required to hold a license from the State Board of Medical Examiners and cannot be prosecuted under the State Medical Practice Act for misuse of the prefix 'Dr.', according to a decision just rendered by the Superior Court Appellate Department in granting a new trial in the Municipal Court to W. I. Schuster, a licensed chiropractor.

"Appellant being a licensed chiropractor," said the appellate opinion, "could not be prosecuted under the Medical Practice Act for any misuse of the prefix 'Dr.', but must be prosecuted therefor under the Chiropractic Act if at all."

"If a chiropractor is charged with advertising and holding himself out as practicing a system for the treatment of the sick and afflicted without having a license from the State Board of Medical Examiners, or in fewer words, with practicing healing arts without a license from the medical board, he may establish a defense by showing that the treatments he offered were a part of the practice of chiropractic, according to the Appellate Department.

"The defendant was charged with a misdemeanor in one count, that he violated section 17 of the Medical Practice Act in that he 'did wilfully and unlawfully (1) use the prefix "Dr." (2) advertise and hold himself out as practicing a system and mode of treating the sick and afflicted without then and there having a valid unrevoked certificate or license from the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of California so to do."

"Associate Judge Shaw, who delivered the opinion, pointed out that the Medical Practice Act of 1913 was the sole medium for regulating the healing arts in California until 1922, when the people adopted an initiative measure, the Chiropractic Act, regulating chiropractic and setting up a State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

"In 1929 Section 17 of the Medical Practice Act was amended to provide that persons practicing healing arts, or attempting to practice them, or advertising or holding themselves out to that end without holding a license from the Board of Medical Examiners, would be guilty of a misdemeanor. It was also provided that persons using the prefix 'Dr.', the word 'doctor' or the letters 'M. D.' indicating practice under the Medical Practice Act or any other act, without having a license from the Board of Medical Examiners, would be guilty of a misdemeanor.